FERDINAND.

The Story of a Few Boarders. Now that September has come, and they have gone, and the pug dog has gone, and the canary has gone, and life begins to look sweet again. I have a feeling that it will be a pleasure and a relief if I tell

new house on what we call "the avenoo,"

We did not want purple rep, but we did want a new L on the back of the house. town where there is no railroad near, and to keep a few hens, and a cow, and a Gordon setter, is not the way to get money enough to build an L. Mrs. Spalding's example was before us. Early in June we began to advertise for a few quiet boarders, who could be accommodated in a large, old-fashioned farmhouse, shaded by gigan-

For the first week no one replied. But the answers began to come very rapidly after that. Nearly all the notes were written by people who wanted hot and cold water in their rooms, and who desired to be on the same floor as the bathroom. It prietor of the place, that I hoped this person would come. The note was signed Flora K. Billings. It said she wanted utter need no society whatever, save that of a pet dog, who went with her everywhere, and who was the only being who understood her. Her tastes were perfectly simple. She liked to breakfast on fruit on bread and milk. She should be out of doors most of the time, communing with nature; therefore her room would not which to rest a weary head when the sun

I do not know why it was that Cather-

She arrived early in July. She said she could not endure the noise of the Fourth in town. She was not as young as I thought she was. But, then, she was younger than Catharine had thought. In point of fact, it was impossible to guess

She brought an immense amount of lug-age and she was dressed with an irre-groachableness that was very discouraging proachableness that was very discouraging to us, who never bought more than one new gown a year. Her dog, who was the only being who understood her, was a pug, and did not look, at first sight, as it he understood anything. But the appearance of pugs is very deceiving. It cannot be said, even by their admirers, that this kind of a dog looks intellectual. The fact is, however, as I learned this last summer, that a pug can know a great deal. This particular specimen was dressed in a very much ornamented harness of Russian leather. The ornaments appeared to be of gold and precious stones. His nose turned up after the manner of his kind. It is eyes bulged out and were watery. His whole aspect was the aspect of one whose "little body is aweary of this great world." He would sit in the front hall on his haunches by the hour together, and doze and wake to catch a fly or to snap at some one who wanted to go out at the

at some one who wanted to go out at the door. Then his harness would jingle for an instant and his mistress, who was just outside the door, would say plaintively:

"Now, Ferdinand, you must be amiable."

Ferdinand would wag his tail curl when he heard his friend's voice, and would then go to sleep again, and his little bells would be silent. Miss Billings often explained that Ferdinand did not mean the least thing in the world by snapping; it was only a cunning little way he had, and she hoped that no body would mind it.

When she used to say this we would all smile and simper—all except one of our gentlemen boarders, who wore a ferocious face every time he saw the pug or heard

When he thought he was unobserved he used also to kick Ferdinand. I saw him do this once, and from the creature's manner, when Mr. Heaton approached, I am sure he did it more than once.

I am one who loves dogs; I can even be friendly to a pug, but I was not prepared to have this little beast, when I spoke kindly to him, stand up, brace his front legs, jingle his gold bells and show his front teeth at me. I trust I may be pardoned if I say too much about Ferdinand, but he was one of the most prominent of our boarders, and he helped to increase the fund for our L. Still, though a lover of dogs. I was not pleased when, on the third morning after her arrival, Miss Billings entered the kitchen, where my sister was beating eggs and I was rolling out the pie-crust. She had on an almost divine tea gown; her hair was fluffed down to her eyebrows, and I was more uncertain than ever about her age. She had a pen in one hand, as if she had been what we call "composing." She had let drop the fact, at her first breakfast with us, that she sometimes did compose verses, She said they relieved the pent-up volcano within her. She did not look in the least as if she were carrying about a pent-up within her. She did not look in the least as if she were carrying about a pent-up ner. She did not look in the least as if she were carrying about a pent-up volcano. But one can never tell about

those things.
She said she thought she would mention that it was the morning for Ferdinand's bath. Catharine had stopped beating eggs to hear what our boarder had to say. She now replied that Miss Billings might have a foot-bath tub for Ferdinand's use, if Miss Fullings looked at her in cool su

orise, as she heard this response. She did not speak for several moments, and my sister resumed her work. The lady put the glittering end of her penholder to her lips, and appeared to be shocked. At last she said that she never washed Ferdinand her-Catharine said "Indeed!" and I rolled out

Where I boarded last year and the year before," went on Miss Billings, "washing of Ferdinand was thrown in." Catharine again said, "Indeed!" and I ipped an edge to my crust. I mentally ecided to let Catharine deal with this

Billings. "I don't know what would hap-pen if he should miss his bath on the oper day."
"Perhaps he would have more fleas," sug-

"It is his day for a bath," repeated Miss

rested Catharine, with great suavity.

The face of the mistress of Ferdinand flushed deeply as she heard these words. She announced with asperity that dearest Ferdy never had a flea in his life. "I'm sure I congratulate him," replied my sister. Miss Billings was again silent. If

woman so stylish and sensitive-she said she was full of sensibility-could be said to "hang round," that is what she did in our kitchen for the next quarter of an hour, and it was very hot in that kitchen. "Do you feel disposed to throw in Ferdy's bath?" she asked finally. When she found out that we did not feel so disposed she burst into tears, and felt like a hard-hearted wretch. If the pug had not had such a way of snapping I think I should have said then and there that I would be his maid. But my sister was firm. She said with decision that if Ferdinand were washed while in that house

he washing would probably be done by Ferdinand's mistress When Catharine had made this state-ment Miss Billings dried her eyes and left the room, taking the pug in her arms after she had put her pen behind her ear. The dog looked over her shoulder at us,

and his eyes were very watery, as if with suppose we shall lose that boarder.' said I, despondently. "Catharine, couldn't you have made up your mind to wash

"Couldn't you?" she asked. But I did not reply. I was absorbed in "I'm afraid we shan't have the L." marked my sister after awhile. She added emphatically that she did not believe that enybody ever threw in the pug's bath. The rest of the day passed colmly. Fer-dinand sat, as usual, at the open front oor and snapped at flies and at passing ankles. If you have ever beer obliged to go frequently very near a dog that snaps at your ankles you can have no idea into what a nerve is state you will fall.

My duties called me often into that hall and near the door-in fact, the hall was so small that you could not go into it at il without going near the amiable brute who was ever stationed there. I used to

together as I brushed by. At last I would almost cry when I found that I must go there; it seemed mean to ask Catherine to take my place.

Nothing but the thought of the L sustained me during those days. It was not soothing, either, to see the edge of Miss Billings's frizzes outside, and to know that she was sitting there and enjoying herself, while I was so unhappy.

Mr. Heaton had seen me on these skirmishes many times. He was a middlenishes many times. He was a mi

Last year Mrs. Spalding, who lives in the new house on what we call "the avenoo," took a few boarders through July and August.

She said they were just as agreeable as they could be, and never looked down on her, and paid a large price, so that they, the Spaldings, bought a new set of purple rep for their parlor in the fall, after their "guests" had gone.

mishes many times. He was a middle-aged man, who was quite stout. He had a large face, adorned by a small grizzled mustache. He had answered our advertisement because he wanted a great deal of fresh milk. He drank two or three quarts daily, and said at breakfast each morning that the milk did him a vast amount of good, but as that confounded pug boarded in the same house with him that fact neutralized all the benefit, so he really was not any better off than when he left the city.

When he would say this Miss Billings

When he would say this Miss Billings would remark that dearest Ferdy was her one comfort in this world, and she could not see why people were not willing he should live. Mr. Heaton would then sniff and say with great contempt that he should try and not be the cause of removing Miss Billings's sole comfort, but he could not swear that he should not some time kick that pug into the next world.

The three other boarders would try to laugh, as if these remarks were pleasantries. Occasionally Mr. Marks, a very young man, who said he had not a drop of Jewish blood in him, would break out into indignant words addressed to Mr. Heaton, but the elder gentleman withered him directly.

rectly.

Miss Billings would cast an expressive glance of the most ardent gratitude at the young man, and he would blush. We all understood that Mr. Marks was an admirer of Miss Billings. He had even been known to carry Ferdinand for her, in spite of his growling and grinning all the time. She such letters. But I was much pleased with a note that came from Boston. It was so sweet. I told my sister, who is joint properties of the place that I hered this person. most as bad in the house as a modern child would have been—not quite so bad, for nothing is as bad as the modern child. So quiet. She longed for perfect stillness as try to be thankful that we had a dog instead of a child.

"For," said Catherine, one day, in confidence, and in a burst of gratitude, "a pug may be poisoned, but a little boy or girl could not be treated in that way."

Not that we ever had dreamed of poison-

Not that we ever had dreamed of poisoning Ferdy.

Mr. Heaton seemed to wish to be very kind. He had witnessed, as I have said, my transits by the pug. One day he appeared in the kitchen with a long-legged pair of hunting boots in his hand. He said he hoped I would excuse him, but he would suggest that I put on those boots when I went near that confounded little beast. He said they would give me'a feeling of safety, and he thought I would like them. I was said they would give me'a feeling of safety, and he thought I would like them. I was extremely glad of them. It is true it was a bother to be obliged to put on hunting boots every time I went into the front entry; but I was paid for my trouble in the sense of security they gave.

It was a joy to be able to saunter calmly by Ferdinand and to see him slowly raise his upper lip until his dear little teeth became visible, and he thrust his head, forward

his upper lip until his dear little teeth became visible, and ne thrust his head forward and snarled. I knew that the leather encasing my feet and ankles was tough, and the knowledge gave me a serenity I had not enjoyed since the advent of Ferdinand. I had been wearing these hunting boots on my visits to the front entry for nearly a week, when Miss Billings had that interview with us concerning the dog's bath. By the time the next day dawned I was convinced that something ought to be done. Without consulting my sister, I sought Miss Billings after breakfast, and told here that, although we could not ourselves wash the pug, we would permit her to have the use of the kitchen and the kitchen sink for that purpose.

use of the kitchen and the kitchen sink for that purpose.

Mr. Marks was sitting with her at the time. He had just been reading "Lucile" to her. When I caught sight of this volume I recalled the remark made by Mr. Heaton the day before. He said he knew a young man who every time he fell in love always borrowed his sister's copy of "Lucile" to read to his inamorata. He finished his remark by asserting that there were always plenty of jackasses in the world.

would become of poor Ferdy, for, even though she should die, she could not wash him herself. She turned sweetly to Mr. Marks and explained to him how the pug's washing had always been thrown in, and she had no idea what she would do, but she hoped she would live through it.

I said that I hoped so, too; and then I left them, feeling that I had done all that I could, even for our I.

It was with considerable surprise that I

It was with considerable surprise that I found Mr. Marks in the kitchen that afternoon, when I came downstairs after my daily nap.

He turned very red, but he managed to say, stammering a good deal, that he hoped I would pardon him.

He grey more red and he stammered

I would pardon him.

He grew more red and he stammered worse than before, and said again he really trusted I would overlook it in him. I assured him I would overlook it. I sat down. It would not be time to begin to get supper for an hour yet.

Mr Marks now informed me that I was very good. I did not deny this assertion. He appeared to struggle with himself for a moment and then he remarked that he thought he had seen me wearing a large abron that must be a great protection to my gown. I began to be somewhat alarmed at this, for it seemed to hint at incipient madness. But I told him pleasantly that I had such an apron, and that it was a great protection. I thought of adding that hunting boots, worn in the front entry, were also very useful under existing circumstances, but I did not know but such an observation might irritate

but such an observation might irritate Now he asked me point blank if I would

Now he asked me point blank if I would lend him that apron.

"Yes," I said to myself as I went for the article, "he is mad. He may ask for the carving knife next and I must not refuse him."

I brought him the garment. He timidly asked if I would assist him to put it on. I did so. I was sorry for him. When he had the apron on and buttoned all the way up behind he glanced at the door leading into the dining room and inquired if I had any objection to locking that door, for some one might come in. I was frightened, but I locked the door. Mr. Marks was very slight in build and did not look strong. I thought that in a hand to hand conflict I should perhaps stand as good a chance for victory as he would. There was another door leading into the wood-

shed. I casually moved round so that I was near this means of exit. Glancing at the door, I was horror struck to see that there was no key in that lock. Where was that key? I did not say these words aloud, but Mr. Marks answered my look. "L have it in my pocket." he said.

His whole appearance indicated such mental wretchedness, and his gingham apron was so unbecoming, that I was tormented by a conflict of emotions. "You see," he said desperately, "I teld

I stared helplessly. He went on. "She seemed so unhappy about it; and you did not feel as if you could fling it in." "Oh!" I said, a light breaking upon my "Yes," he continued, "I want you to le me have the footbath tub-she said you said she could have that-and I want the doors kept locked-and I don't want you to say anything about it—and"—still more desperately—"don't let anybody come in while I wash Ferdinand."

I brought the bathtub to him. I structed him about the warm water in the tank on the stove. I brought, also, an old sheet in which to wrap Ferdy when he came out of the tub. Then I asked him where the dog was. He opened the woodhouse door and showed me the pug asleep on the mat, with a string going from his neck to the latch. At the earnest desire of Mr. Marks, left him. I heard him turn the key as walked into the woodhouse. I went back and, with my lips to the keyhole, I told him I should want the He replied that if he had not washed Ferdy in an hour he never should wash

I strolled down into the orchard, where Catharine frequently sat during our leisure time in the afternoon. I told her that now I knew that Miss Billings was truly beloved, for Mr. Marks was in our kitchen, and in my apron, and was washing Ferdi-She rose from her seat in considerable

"Poor boy!" she exclaimed, "he will get bitten; perhaps he will have hydrophobia. "She is not doing it," I said. "It is Mr. Marks who is doing it. What a thing it must be to be truly loved! Catharine, do you think if I were as old as Miss Flora K. Billings, and had a pug, and boarded where his washing was not thrown in-do you think any one would love me as But my sister was moving rapidly ward the house. "Where are you going?" I asked, hurrying after her.

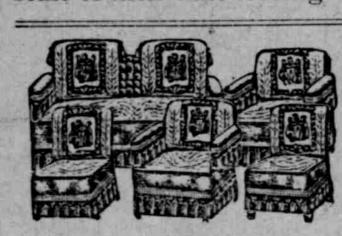
I want to be near in case he needs But you can't get in." I replied.

The hour went by and still the kitchen remained closed. The thought of supper began to worry us. When a half hour more had passed we knew we must get boarders must have their meals. Suddenly we heard a voice close to the door leading into the woodhouse, where "I'm going to unlock it," said Mr. Marks,

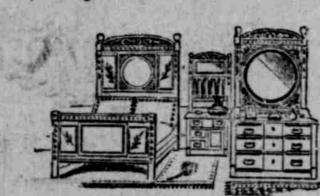
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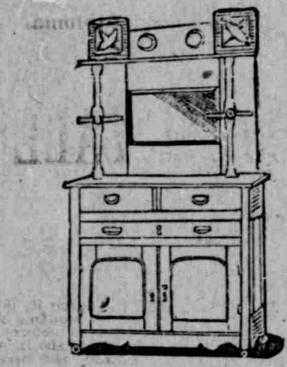
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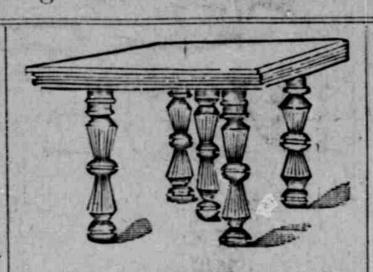


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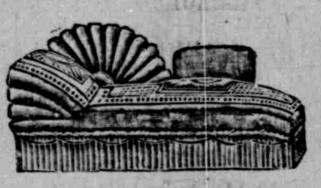
ing in water, which had been very ineffect-

ively sopped up with my apron. This

was lying in a wet wad in the mid-



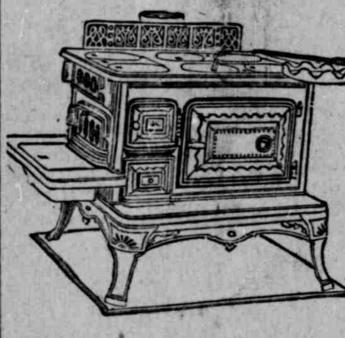
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75 samples to select from. 75 different style Rugs, in Fur, A 12-piece Toilet Set for \$3, worth \$5; a 12-piece Toilet Set for \$5, worth \$8.

of the room. There were fragments of silk scattered about. I recognized these fragments as parts of the necktie Mr. Marks had worn when I had last left him. On the kitchen table, near a bowl of cream, which I had forgotten in the confusion of finding the young man in the kitchen, was Ferdinand, very wet and shiny, and showing his teeth and growling. But he was washed. Catharine immediately went somewhere and brought back Miss Billings to take her "Oh, you precious, precious!" cried that lady, gathering Ferdy to her heart and carrying him out of our sight. Mr. Marks had not come down to supper Late in the evening I ventured to knock He did not let me see him, but talked to me from behind the door, as he held it a little open. He said he had a good many scratches pay an average of \$7,000 per day in com-pensation, some of it being for damage to on his hands, and his under lip was torn; otherwise he was perfectly well. He thought, however, that he should go back to Boston by the train that started at a o'clock in the morning, and he would send He handed out the money for his board through the crack between the door and the wall. He thanked me for my kindness. He said if I ever wanted that cursed

brute shot to send for him. Miss Billings left us before it was time to wash Ferdy again. She exclaimed that she required a frequent change. The lady who had the room after Miss Billings brought a canary who never stopped singing from the time the sun rose intil it set. But, as Mr. Heaton remarked. there were times when the force of contrast made even a singing canary seem a Perhaps I ought to state that we are go ing to have the L. -Maria Louise Pool, in New York Tribune

> minutes originated in Babylon. A house well built of first-class brick will outlast one constructed of granite. During the French-Indian war of 1754 the French offered a bounty for English Some of the direct calamities that have befallen the old world are traced to the destruction of forests. Six years ago the price for a complete equipment of a trolley car was \$4,500. Now it is between \$1,000 and \$1,200. Two New Orleans boys sixteen and twelve years of age weigh forty pounds and fifteen pounds, respectively. Market baskets made of wire, covered with a light cloth, and which fold into a

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

The division of the clock dial into sixty

western Nevada. It is said to be 666 feet France elects a Senate of three hundred members for nine years from citizens at least forty years of age. One-third of them retire every three years. In Italy the Senate consists of princes of royal blood, and an unlimited number of members appointed by the King for life. In 1890 there were 355 members.

Statistics of life insurance people show that, in the last twenty-five years, the average of man's life has increased 5 per cent., or two whole years, from 41.9 to 43.9. An absolutely saw proof metal is made of three layers of iron, between which is placed alternately two layers of crucible steel, and the whole then welded together. Another driest place in the world has been discovered, this time in that part of Egypt between the two lower falls of the Nile. Rain has never been known to fall The railway companies of Great Britain

passengers and the remainder for lost or injured freight. People wink because the eye must be kept clean and moist, and by the action of the eyelids the fluid secreted by the glands of the eyes is spread equally over the surface of the globe. Last year ninety-seven railroads, owning nearly thirty-two thousand miles of railroad and representing more than \$2,000,000 .-

000 in bonds and stocks, went into the hands of receivers in the United States. The cash value of farms in the whole United States in 1860 was \$6,638,000,000, and, though the South had only one-fourth of the white population, the value of its farms was \$2,300,000,000, more than one-third of On a territory about the area of Montana Japan supports forty million people

this country at that rate would support 960,000,000 people. The number of foreigners having their fixed abode in Paris amounted, on the first of this month, to 293,788, of whom nearly a fourth part (75,000) are Belgians, and the next largest nationality, the Germans, with about fifty thousand. The Turkish government has ordered

in comparative comfort. Reckoning our own area at twenty-four times that of Japan,

the aqueducts of Solomon in Jerusalem to be put in repair. They will bring water into the city from the fountain of Arroul. A tunnel 4,000 yards long will be built at a cost of £400,000. The aqueduct was still in working order in the time of Christ. In the treasure room of the Maharajah of Barnda is stored a carpet which cost \$1,000,000. It is only 10x6 feet in size, but is woven from strings of pure pearls, with a center and corner circle of diamonds. It took three years to make it and was in-tended as a gift to a certain Monammedan

wait in the kitchen, or upstairs, each time until I had screwed up my courage, and then I would make a dash through the place; but I always heard the teeth snap in a bool of water, and we kept on walk-

equal in solid nutriment to a pound of beef. It is claimed for this form of solidified soup that a soldier can carry in his knapsack a sufficient number of capsules for several months' rations.

STREET DRESSES FOR FALL. Some New Fabrics That Will Be Favozed for Gowns-Airy Trifles. Harper's Bazar.

Rough surfaced stuffs of mixed colors rival plain smooth cloths in the street gowns imported for autumn and winter. Boucle cloths have soft curly loops of black mohair as glossy as silk on loosely woven grounds of bluet, dark red, green, or brown. Zibilline and fleecy camel's hair have tufts of rose or cerise on checks of two shades of brown or gray, or else light bluet on black and green blocks. Coarse bourette threads are effective on plaids and stripes of darker shades. Blue and brown are loosely woven in basket squares and flecked with tan color. The trimming for these stuffs is velvet, sometimes of the prevailing color, but more often of the color least used in the fabric thus accentuating the contrast.

Ladies' cloth with smooth glossy surface

comes in very striking colors, the new bluet, cerise, and other purplish reds, and bright green among them, which are often made more showy still by a contrasting color being used for the velvet colar. Thus a sage green cloth dress has a colar of mauve velvet, one of tan cloth has a bluet co'ar, and a cerise cloth is also topped off with bluet velvet. Sleek mirror velvet is preferred for these collars, which are cut bias, in stocklike folds, and are much trimmed on the aides with resettes or bunches of box pleats, or else swallow bows with pointed winglike loops that reach up to the ears. Chiffon takes a new lease of favor, and, incongruous as it may seem, trims cloth Those who like quiet colors will admire a gown of black cloth with a skirt bordered with gray chinchilla fur an inch wide on the pelt. The full round waist has a yoke of pale gray satin, shallow and straight across front and back, and pointed deeply on the shoulders. This yoke is gored to take the collar in one piece with it, and is edged top and bottom with the gray fur. The cloth below the yoke is oddly pleated and striped diagonally with insertions of open cord galloon over gray satin, giving the effect of swathing the figure. Points of this trimming placed diagonally on the skirt appear to continue those of the waist. Muttonieg sleeves of the cloth have also

diagonal stripes of black over gray. The

expanded by two loops that form a large A refined dress of chocolate brown cloth has a lighter Suede-colored cloth border at the foot, strapped with the chocolate cloth cut in bands and appliqued in curves. A separate vest of the Suede cloth is worn under a very stylish coat of the dark cloth with light revers and applique bands.

From Various Sources. Dainty bib collarettes are of coffee-colnet-top lace and cherry vervet ribbon. Light silk dinner gowns are beautifully trimmed with flounces of spangled gauze. All the stylish traveling capes are lined with large tartan plaids in taffeta and The new colors are soft and beautiful,

running the gamut of the deep and pale

toned art shades.

Black, wine colored and golden brown velvets will be in great demand for fall An evening blouse of accordion-plaited white chiffon has sleeves, crush collar and girdle of white liberty satin. Flounces of lace, chiffon, gauze and net are draped on evening gowns and headed by rosettes of ribbon or velvet.

Dainty dressing jackets are of surah in delecate shades, and are trimmed most elaborately with laces and ribbons. Jetted net is very fashionable. Bands, borders and edgings of it are seen, and it is made into yokes and bodice fronts. The wheel collar, which is round and laid in plaits narrow at the top and flaring like the spokes of a wheel, is seen in both wraps and dresses.

Numbers of dark petticoats to be worn under fall gowns are to be seen. Mohair, alpaca, and light-weight black moreen are the materials employed. Blouse waists of accordion-pleated chiffon by the importers. They are made with full elbow sleeves and have pretty belt accessories of watered ribbon. Round waists continue in high favor, and

the seamless bodice is still used for all

to whom it proves becoming, as well as for many strict followers of "style" to whom

it proves quite the reverse.

Skirts of striped or small-figured black shape, will be worn ail the season with satin, made up in bell or seven-gored fancy waists of taffeta crepon or shot surah in autumn color melanges. Black and white striped ribbons are much used to make rosettes and bows with upstanding ends, these being extensively employed to trim turbans and French toques. The still popular magenta roses are very frequently used in addition. Black and white effects, both in dress and millinery, are still very much favored. The newest black and white gowns prevailing at day weddings and receptions are those in shot and flowered patterns in shepherds' check silks of rich quality, and in stripes, both wide and narrow, in silk

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